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His Majesty's Ship Champion, in the
River Weser the 8th. May 799.

Sir

In Pursuance of your Order of the 5th. Instant, I put to Sea, and arrived at this Anchorage on the 6th at Noon: Viz: Off of the 10th. Black Buoy in this River marked: I:

The Tide of Ebb making down immediately after my Arrival, prevented my sending a Boat, to Captn. Palmer of the Selby, lying off of Bremerlehe, till yesterday Morning, who was unable to arrive here with the Gun Boats under his Command, till this Evening, owing to thick fogs.

I have given him an Order to return to you at Cuxhaven, and one to the same Purport, to Lieutenant Wilson of the Lark (Luggr.) who brings this and the State & Condition of the Vessels under my Command.

I have thought it most proper, for the Good of His Majesty's Service, to station the Vessels under my Command in the following Manner. Viz:

The Champion, and Asp Gun-Brig between the Black Buoys marked I: & K: to prevent the Enemy's crossing the Mellum Sand; and the Boxer, ~~[illegible]~~ Biter, & Steady, at the Black Buoys marked P: Q: R: to block the Passage between the Jade, and the Weser called Hrogeneveg's Hooge–

I should have ordered the Gun-Vessels to their former Stations, marked by you in the Chart (I have received from Captn: Palmer) but the Pilots will not keep charge of them at that Anchorage, as it will be very dangerous riding; but provided they would lye there, the Enemy may evade them, by passing between the Islands of Spikeroog & Wrangeroog, & entering the Grand Channel of the Weser; where should they enter in any numbers it will be impossible for the Champion alone, to destroy them, without a great many getting past her; The Gun Boats also laying the other Side the Sand, would not be able to join me till above ½ flood tide, and therefore be entirely unable to render me any assistance —

By my lying in this Situation I also command the Two principal Passes across the Newark Sand —

I hope this Disposition of my force will meet your Approbation; should it not you may depend upon its being altered, immediately your pleasure is known to me —

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your very humble Servant

G Hamond

To

Henry Inman Esqr.

Captn: of His Majesty's Ship

Andromeda

&c — &c &c

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His Maj: Ship Champion River Wear 12th May 1799 —

Sir/

I have received your Letter of the 9th Inst: by Lieut: Wilson of the Lark Lugger, who is just arrived, and am happy to find, the Disposition of the Force under my Command meets your Approbation —

Nothing material has happend since my last Letter —

I do not think it necessary to send you the State, and Condition of the Gun Brigs, as I believe there is no Alteration except the Natural Decrease of Provisions — Fuel indeed, they seem greatly in want of, which cannot be supplied from this Ship, without the greatest Inconveniance —

The fresh beef we have received is very acceptable, and shall be glad of the Same proportion when you next send the Lugger

To/ Henry Inman Esqr:
Captn: of His M: Ship Andromeda —

I am Sir
Your very humble Servt
[illegible]

His Maj: Ship Champion off Hargenweg Sand. In the River Wear the 24th May 1799 —

Sir/

I beg leave to acquaint you that in Consequence of the violent Gales of Wind, we have had for these five days past I was obliged to run up to this Anchorage with the Hk Gun Brigs for Shelter but as the Weather is now more moderate, I shall resume my Station tomorrow Morng:

In the mean Time, I have thought proper to order the Hk to Bremerlehe, with as many Water Casks as she can stow from this Ship, & the Gun Brigs, they being short of Water, giving her Lieutenant Orders to use the

utmost Dispatch & rejoin me at my former Anchorage —

By the same Opportunity, I have sent Lieutenant Fullarton of the Champion to Cuxhaven, who is ordered to return immediately to the Ship at Bremerlehe, after having delivered this to you, with the State & Condition of this Ship & Gun Brigs & receive whatever directions you may think proper to give him — I am

Sir

Your very hum.ble Servant

[illegible]

To/ Henry Inman Esq.re
Capt.n of His Maj: Ship Andromeda —

His Maj: Ship: Champion off of
[illegible]: Sand in the River Weser
the 25th May 1799

Sir

As the Lark Lugger is just arrived & the Ship Gun Brig not yet sailed from this, I have recalled the Lieutenant of the Champion, and herewith send the Letters by Lieut.t Wilson. I had intended him to have brought over land: I have ordered Lieut.t Ferriere, to proceed notwithstanding, & use the utmost Dispatch in filling the Water —

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the Secret Order from the Admiralty, and also your orders of the 22 Inst.t

When the Weather looks a little more settled, I shall resume my former Station immediately —

and am

Sir

Your very h.ble Ser.t

[illegible]

To/ Henry Inman Esq:
Capt.n of His M: Ship Andromeda

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Champion Leith Roads. Nov.r
11th - 1799

My Lord

I beg leave to inform your Lordship of my Arrival in these roads - & enclose my last orders from Captn. Riou, the State & Condition of the Ship with my Journal, since my parting from the Amazon in the night of the 23 of last month

After cruizing a few days to the Northward of Shetland, I thought it most proper to repair to Brassay Sound in Shetland, for the homeward bound Archangel fleet, which I had reason to suppose was at that place, where I arrived on the 30th, but not finding them there, it was my intention to have proceeded to Leith immediately, had not the hard Gale of Wind from SW. prevented my putting to Sea, till the 7th of this month —

Off Fair Isle on the 8th, I fell in with one of the Archangel fleet, belonging to Peterhead which Vessel, I saw safe close to her Port —

Your Lordship may depend on my using all dispatch in getting the Champion ready for sea, but the very bad weather, I have met with during my cruize, has so worn the sails & rigging, that it will take near 10 days to put

the Ship in a proper condition to meet the Gales of Wind, that are naturally incident at this Season —

I have the honor to remain

Your Lordships very humble Servt.

Graham Hamond

To The Right Honble. Lord Visc^t. Duncan —

Champion Leith Roads : 26th Novr. 1799

~~My Lord~~ Mem^o.

Wrote to Lord Duncan to inform him of my having towed in a Russian Vice Adm^ls. Ship dismasted, which I had sailed in quest of and found off Aberdeen —

Also, acknowledging the receipt of an Order dated the 19th — to go to the Elbe with a Convoy —

and informing him that I had receivd orders from the Admiralty dated the 21st. inst^t. to go immediately to the Downs. —

Champion Leith Roads : 29th. Novr. 1799

My Lord/

The Captain of the Weazle has also receivd orders from the Admiralty to proceed without loss of Time to the Downes — As there is no other armed Vessel here — except the Jane Lugger, which your Lordship has orderd to cruize to the Northw^d. I think proper to inform you of it, that the Elbe Convoy may not be detained —

There are only 3 sail altogether, going to the Elbe; 2 from this port, which I understand are

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not ready till Monday. Your Ship lying in the Roads from Liverpool —

I shall proceed to morrow morning to the Downes, in obedience to my last orders from the Admiralty, which I could not before do, owing to the Caulkers, not having finished the Decks —

I have the honor to remain
Your Lordships' very h^ble Servt

Graham Hamond

To
The Right Honble Lord
Visc^t Duncan —

Champion Leith Roads 8 Decr 1799

Sir

I beg leave to inform you for the information of their Lordships, that I was this day obliged to put back, with the Weazle brig to these roads in a Gale of Wind from S.E. —

At present it has every appearance of remaining in that quarter; but their Lordships may depend, on my taking the first opportunity of proceeding in obedience to their orders to the Downs —

I am Sir
Your very h^ble Servt

Graham Hamond

To
Evan Nepean Esqre
&c &c &c